

*An unusual  
thriller by*  
**TARLETON  
FISKE**

# ALMOST HUMAN

Blaserman's robot was willing to  
learn but didn't know right from wrong

# Dwellers In Silence

By RAY BRADBURY



*The fire grew in the sky.*

**A shattered Earth suddenly remembered poor Hathaway, marooned on Mars by the mad rush homeward, all alone. But—was he alone?**

Fighting off fear and  
disillusionment, Smith  
lent over his wife



# MARIONETTES, INC.

By RAY BRADBURY

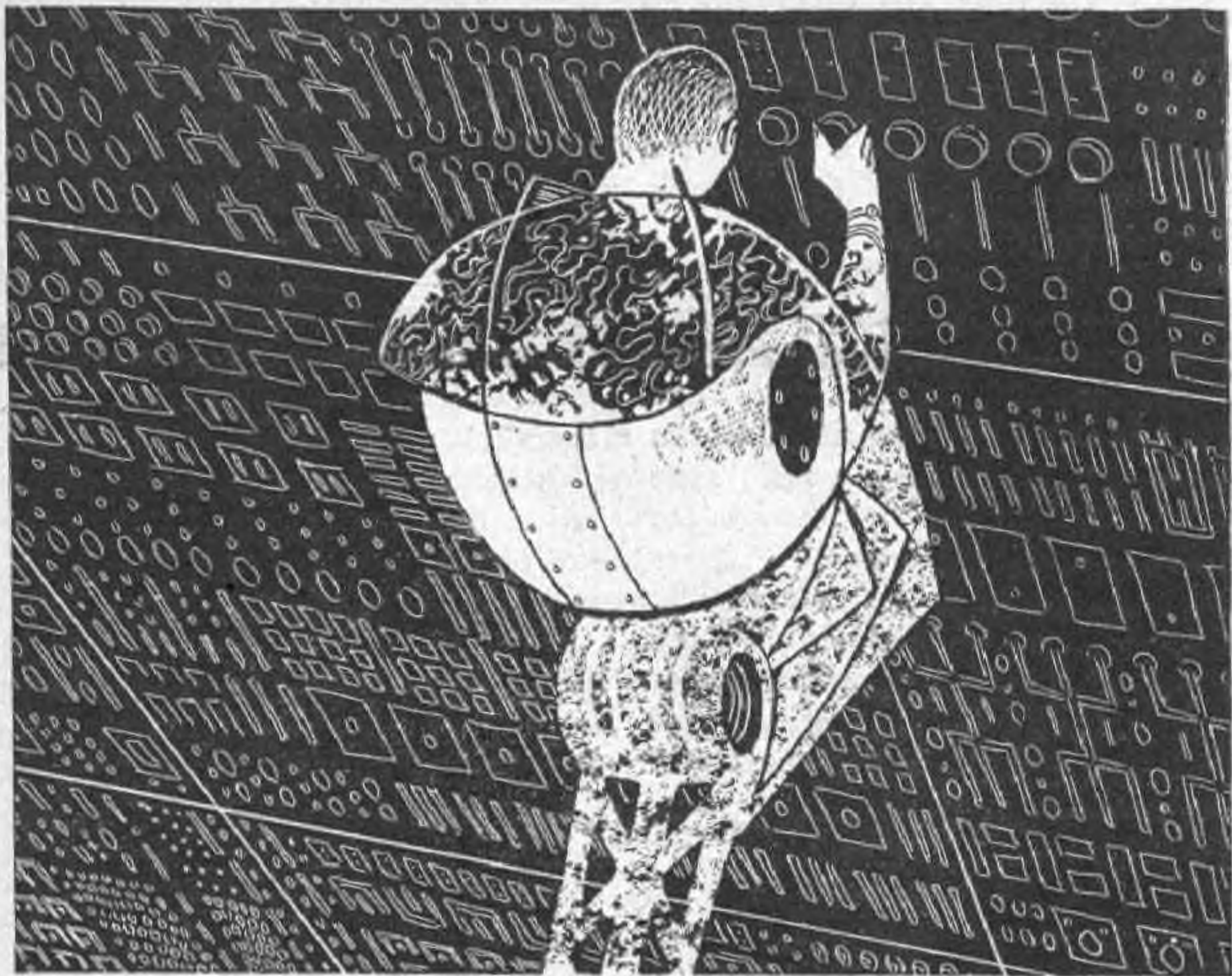


# THE POTTERS OF FIRSK

BY JACK VANCE

*Uranium is an interesting material indeed. And Uranium-235 can be used to settle a cultural dispute permanently—if it is used sensibly. This time it was.*





# Appointment in Tomorrow

BY FRITZ LEIBER

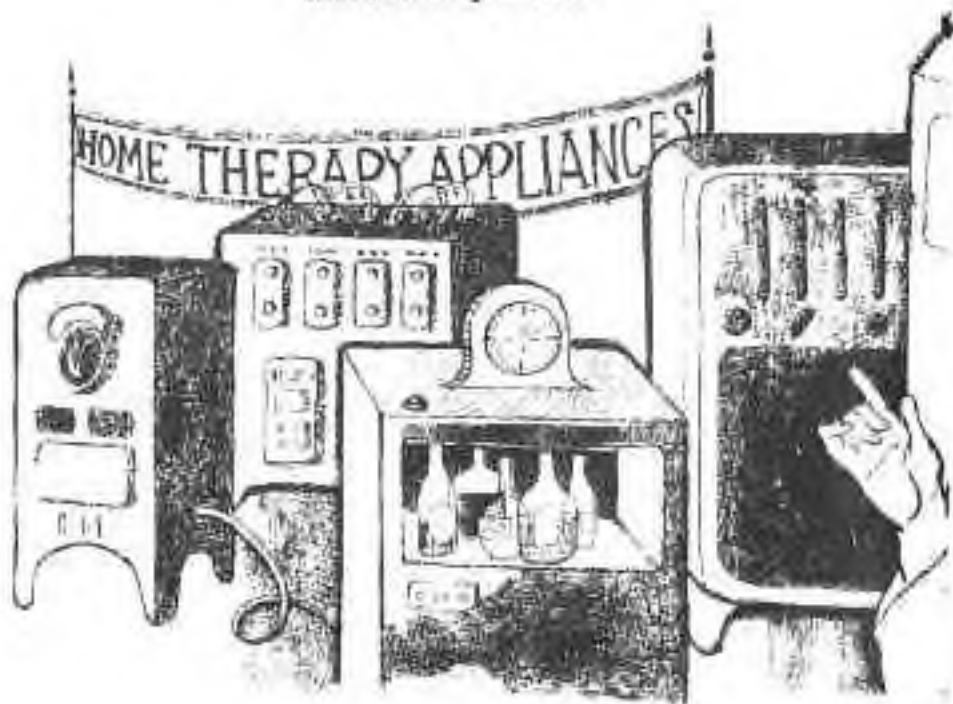






*Give this robotic therapist a condition to cure and it did—always—even if it had to convert itself into a Typhoid Mary to do so!*

**Illustrated by CAVAT**





# caretaker

By JAMES H. SCHMITZ









1935 FORD V8 SEDAN



# CHAIN OF COMMAND



By [illegible]

the [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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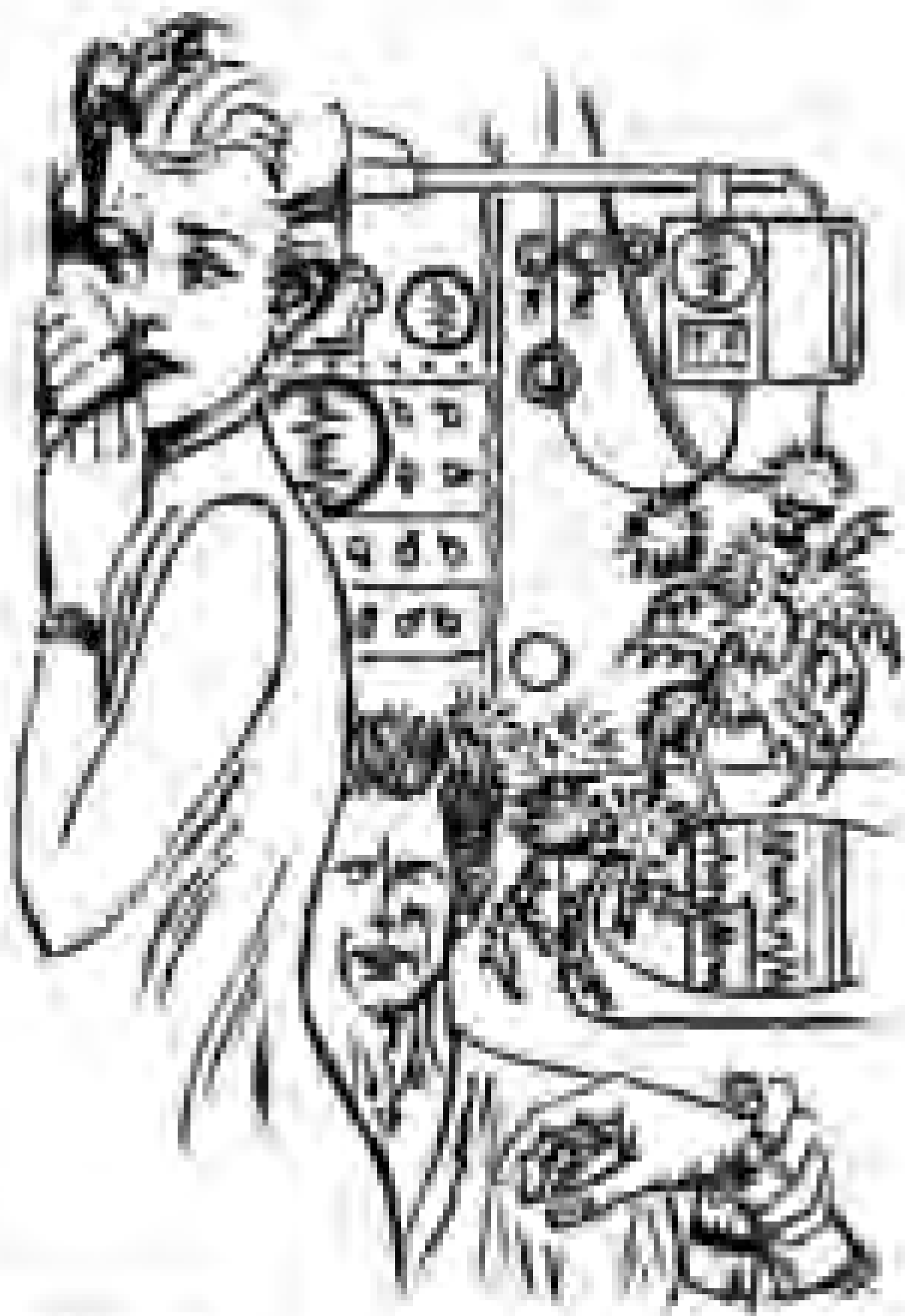
# CHILD'S PLAY

BY MICHAEL KANE









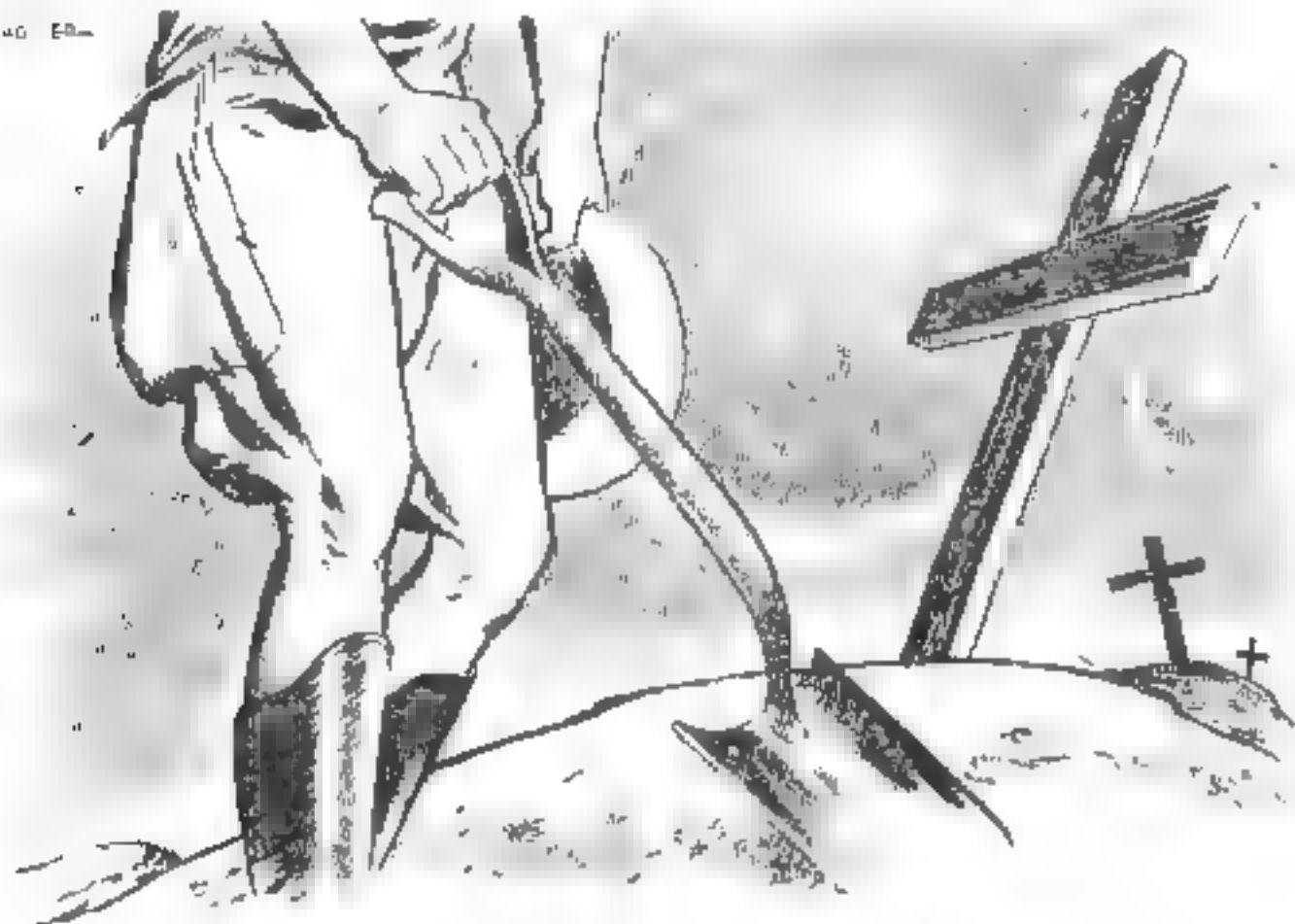
# COURTESY

BY CLIFFORD D. SIMAK

*When the mighty Earthmen arrive in their ships of space, courtesy and proper homage on the part of the natives is expected. But some native inhabitants are too small to be impressed —*

*Illustrated by Carter*

40 ED—

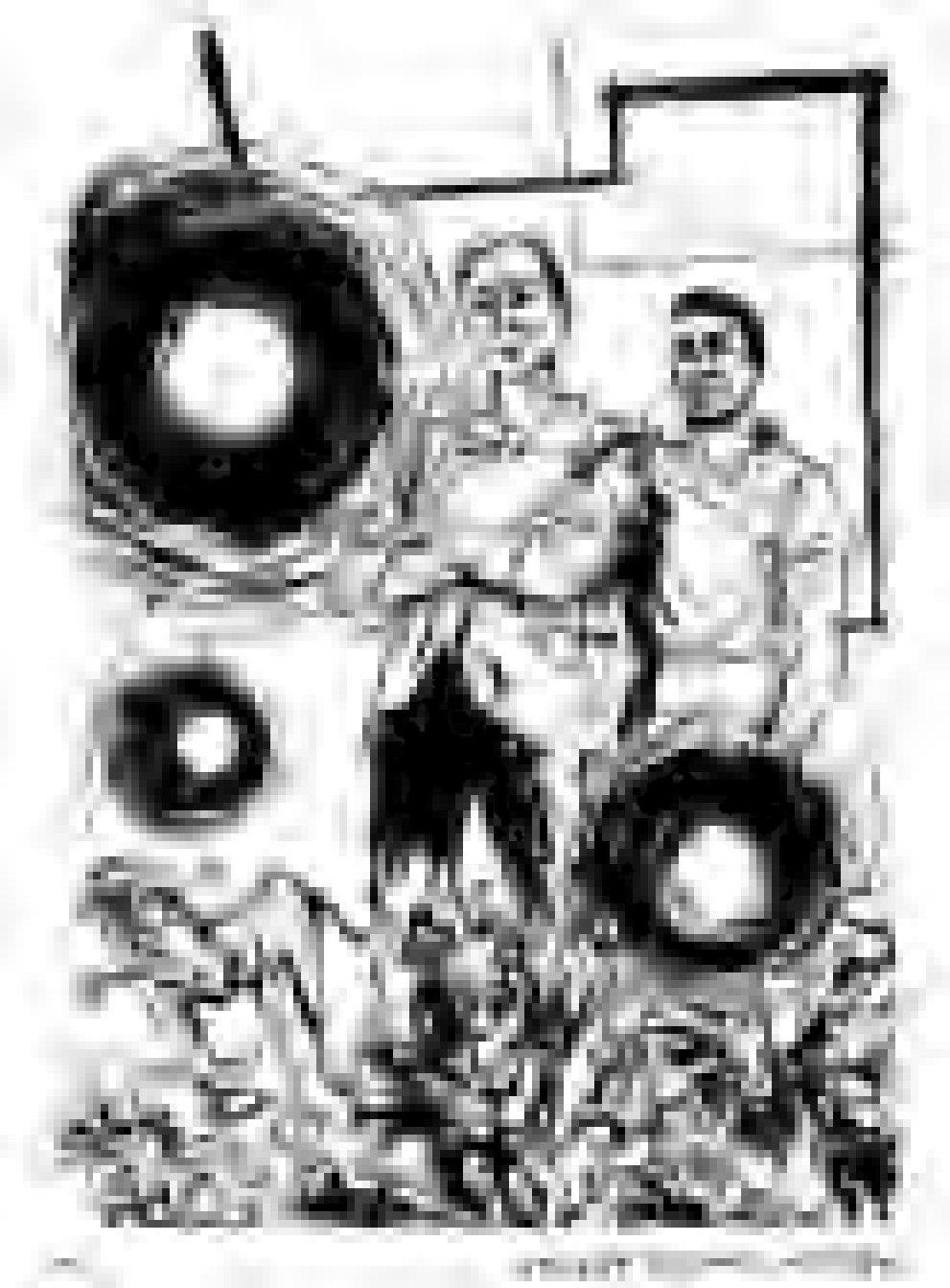












# Drop Dead

—







# THE EMBASSY

By Martin Pearson

● A new author suggests a rather nice point. Might be, you know—and wouldn't the U.S.I. be surprised if they stumbled on something like that by mistake—









# First Contact

by MURRAY LEINSTER

Illustrated by Urban

*An expedition from Earth had gone to investigate the Crab Nebula. And—an expedition from Somewhere was already there! Now what is a spaceship skipped to do under such circumstances? Lead the possibly-deadly aliens home? Try to destroy them? What can he do?*







Man and children at table.





Grimly, he continued beating the bulkhead until he could not force himself to bear any more pain.

There was a bulkhead there. Therefore, there was a ship. His undamaged hand went to his faceplate. He hesitated, then reminded himself that solitosis wasn't suicidal. He opened the plate. He felt his nose, his eyes, his chin. He pinched his cheek.

The faceplate was open and he could breathe.

Only two possibilities were left. Either Marilyn and all that went with her were real, or he was over the top at last, absolutely in the grip of solitosis, so that he couldn't even be certain he had left the space station.

And if Marilyn was real . . .

He collapsed weakly as an insidious thought beat the spirit











"And what are the rumors about the origin of the Golden Fil? Is it connected, Ben?"

She shook her head at him. "I could never be. Maybe, Ben, but as soon as they know nothing about how the Golden Fil spread, I could never be that, Ben."

He stood still, looking at her. The strong, dark, more distant, more like a boy's and his words were exactly more than a woman. "It could be a matter of complete mystery. What is it?"

He smiled again. "I'll tell you about this right now. Ben. That's just for your help."





—if you was a

**U**P to the very last minute, I can't imagine that Mexico is going to let the the last planet that humans get off of, moving fast, anything here, and creating world impact. There ain't any reason for it. Humans have been on Mexico for more than 100 years, and probably even figure there is something the last bit going until Mexico makes it out. When he





# JAY WALKER

IN FOUR EPIISODES





# **KNOCK** *by Fredric Brown*



*The last man on Earth  
and alone in a room. . .*



# The Last Objective

by PAUL CARTER

*The only way to avoid atomic bombs is to be where they can't find you, and for an army, that meant tunneling underground in a really big way.*

For a month now, the great-  
est of enigmas and mysteries had  
known no rest. The war had  
been a constant flow of news  
from the front, and the people  
of the world had been waiting  
for the day when the war would  
end. But now, the war had  
ended, and the people of the  
world were waiting for the day  
when the war would end.

The war had ended, and the  
people of the world were waiting  
for the day when the war would  
end. But now, the war had  
ended, and the people of the  
world were waiting for the day  
when the war would end.





# A Logic Name Joe

BY WILL F. JENKINS















**Mr.**

By  
**THEODORE  
STURGEON**

ILLUSTRATED BY ELSA







# Nightfall

By Louis Brown

When nightfall is complete, the  
 moon rises over the hills and the  
 stars descend upon the earth.

Copyright 1935

The night is a time of mystery and  
 wonder. It is a time when the  
 world is shrouded in darkness and  
 the stars are visible in the sky.

When the sun sets, the  
 world is a different place. The  
 stars are visible in the sky and  
 the moon rises over the hills.







THE FLYING LEAF













"I like models you know--little things" explained  
the professor "I        eh        like to make them."

# Mastodon

Discover the secrets of the prehistoric world  
and the lives of the people who lived there  
in the heart of the American West



Discover the secrets of the prehistoric world



















# OF LONELINESS

By **THOMAS H. HUGHES**

There are many ways that you can be  
happy and healthy and still feel  
lonely. Here are some ways to  
feel better about your loneliness.









# seventh victim

By ROBERT SHECKLEY

*The most dangerous game, said  
one writer, is Man. But there  
is another still more deadly!*

Illustrated by EMSH



**S**TANTON Frelaine sat at his desk, trying to look as busy as an executive should at nine-thirty in the morning. It was impossible. He couldn't concentrate on the advertisement he







# The Snowball effect

By KATHLEEN MCELROY

Each person drives as a steering wheel and you can topple the world into the darkest abyss

Illustrated by LINDA

"A LL right?" I said, "what is sociology good for?"

Arthur Corwell, Ph.D., was head of my Sociology Department, and right then he was mad enough to choke nails. On the office wall behind him were three or four framed documents in Latin that were supposed to be signs of great learning. But I didn't care at that moment if he tapped the walls with his der-

# SOLDIER BOY

By MICHAEL SHAARA

*It's one thing to laugh at a man because his job is useless and outdated—another to depend on him when it suddenly isn't.*

Illustrated by EMSH





THE LONG FIGHT



and especially if it has a practical application. What he can't do is initiate and complete that structure of logic. I don't have to, either—that was done for me by

a pair of Brights and I "simply" have to apply their findings.

Now let's see if I can.

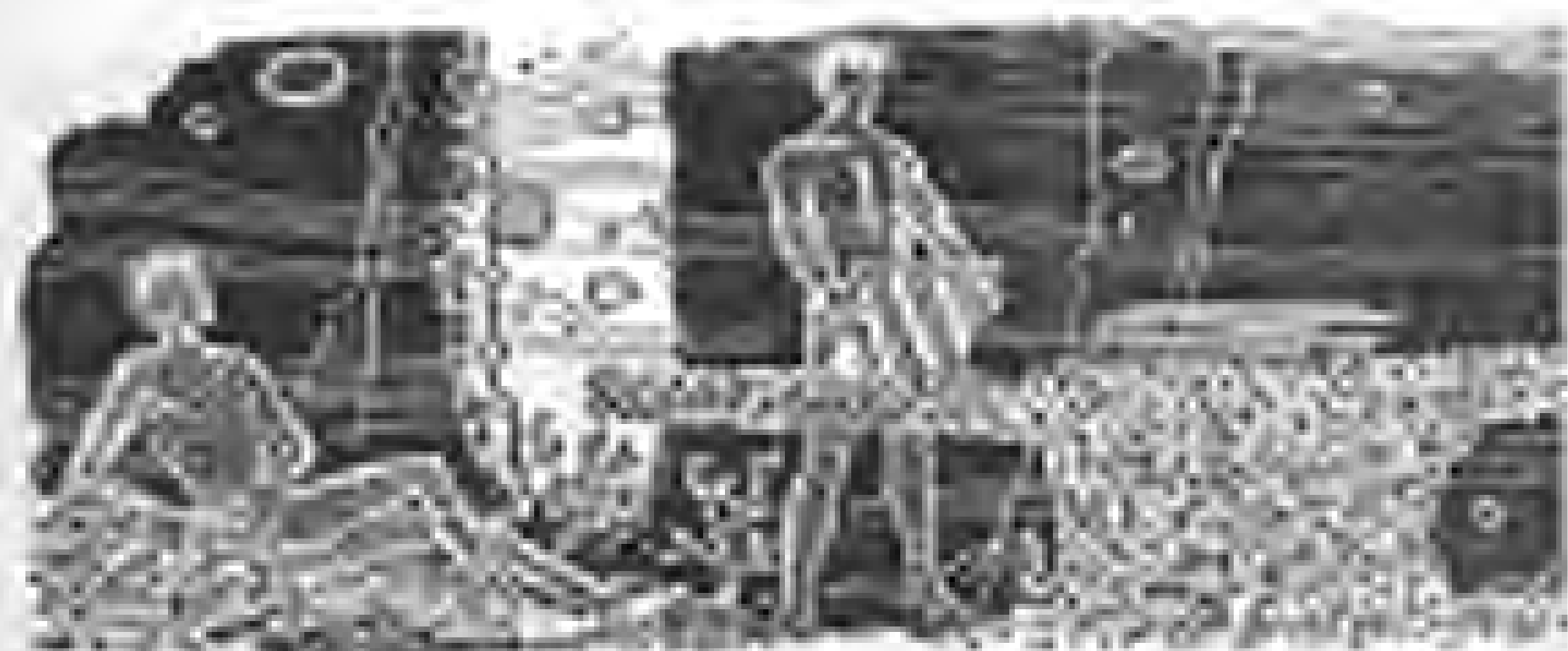
By reducing the second part of point of point to a Möbius strip





# SURFACE

# TENSION



GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION













# VENUS

is a man's world

BY WILLIAM TENN

I'VE always said that even if the women people didn't want a girl husband—she don't always know what's best. Put me on a spaceship jam-packed with them hundred females just waiting to get themselves husbands in the one place they're not to be had—the planet Venus—and you know I'd be in trouble.

But couldn't I do the same which is the way a boy can get laid?

Twenty minutes after my liftoff from the Silver Sparrow, I crawled out of my cocoon-like automatic and started for the door at our table.

"Now you be careful, Frank," the pilot called after me as I opened a hatch called Family Rest-

Illustrated by NORM FORTNETT

Actually, there wouldn't be too much difference if women took over the Earth altogether. But not for some men and most boys!







# Volpla

By WYMAN GUIN



# MAY BE

By  
JAMES A. GUNN

Illustrated by SIBLEY

watch her way.

Matt shrugged and wiped the sweat from his forehead with his shirt sleeve. A late June afternoon in southern Missouri was too hot for this kind of work, for any kind of work. Matt wondered if it had been a mistake.

